

Montgomery Cares Advisory Board

January 22, 2020 Meeting Notes

MCAB Members Present: Betsy Ballard, Julia Doherty, Sarah Galbraith-Emami, Sybil Greenhut, Lynda Honberg, Yuchi Huang, Peter Lowet, Marie Mann, D. Maria Rice, Wayne Swann

MCAB Members Absent: Dr. Travis Gayles, Sharron Holquin, T.J. Senker, Langston Smith,

DHHS Staff: Magda Brown, Tara Clemons, Robert Morrow, Rebecca Smith

County Council Staff: Linda McMillan

Primary Care Coalition: Rose Botchway, Hillery Tumba

Guest: Diana Saladani *on behalf of T.J. Senker*

The Chair, Wayne Swann, called the meeting to order at 6:24 pm

Item		Action Follow-up	Person Assigned	Due Date
1.	<p>Approval of Minutes – December 11, 2019</p> <p><i>Moved by Yuchi Huang. Seconded by Peter Lowet</i></p>		Wayne Swann	
2.	<p>Chair Report</p> <p>Wayne highlighted the agenda items and mentioned that Councilmember Gabe Albornoz will speak at the February meeting. Wayne also mentioned that the advocacy priorities needed to be finalized.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lynda mentioned that she had spoken to George Leventhal who is working for Kaiser. She requested that a representative from Community Health with Kaiser come to a future meeting. ▪ Wayne reviewed the Committee membership and mentioned that if members have changes to send them to Tara. 		Wayne Swann	

3. **Health Care for the Uninsured Report**
See Report and handout

Tara Clemons

Monthly Status Report

Tara reviewed the data for the Health Care for the Uninsured programs:

Montgomery Cares has served 17,363 patients through December 2019 with a total of 33,791 patient visits at the ten participating clinics. The clinics expended 47% of the FY20 budgeted amount for encounters, the benchmark for December is 50%.

- Mary's Center Dental suite set to open March 2020. CCI Takoma Park location undergoing renovations that will nearly double their space.
- MCares Eligibility Phase 1 – OESS conducting eligibility for the 6 clinics, HHS is planning expansion to the four other clinics.

Care for Kids had a 162% increased enrollment of new children through December 2019 compared with the same time frame last year. Total program enrollment through December is 5,549 which is a 24% increase over the same time frame last FY. At the midpoint of the year, we have served almost the same number of children seen for all FY19 (5,580).

- Specialty Dental continues to be in high demand. As of December 2019, the program has expended \$226,000 on specialty dental care. In FY19, the program expended \$236,434 in specialty dental funds for the program year. CFK will at minimum need an additional \$100,000 to continue to provide specialty dental care. Referrals for specialty dental may slightly decrease with the pediatric Dentist contracted with County Dental Services.
- Kaiser has increased the cutoff age of its charitable healthcare prog. from 19 to 21. Staff is determining how to manage the expanded age group and the number of slots the we will receive.

The Maternity Partnership Program's enrollment through December was 818 teens and women, a 14% increase in enrollment compared with FY19. We are estimating to serve 1,678 (slightly increased estimate) women by the end of the FY. The program is funded to serve 1,652 for FY20.

- DHHS is revising the open solicitation for the MPP program. We are considering allowing non-hospital providers, changing rates and requiring additional outcome measures.

Dental Services patient and encounter not available through December. We are missing some data points from November's utilization that staff is trying to update.

- Per the Regional Manager at Kaiser, they provide dental care for enrollees (limited). He has instructed DHHS to contact him if there are ongoing issues or patients who need assistance. Limited includes - Oral exam and cleaning twice a year, X-rays, Fillings and Extractions. Maximum benefit \$750 per calendar year

The **Homeless Health** program has had a total of 64 patient visits through December, a -31% decrease compared to FY19.

- **2019 Point-in-Time Homeless Count** is an annual survey of homeless persons in Montgomery County who are residing in sheltered and unsheltered environments. It is occurring tonight, January 22nd and Thursday morning January 23rd.

County Updates

- FY21 Montgomery County Community Grants Program – the online application portal opened for submissions January 2nd and will close January 29th at 12 noon. MCAB won't be reviewing of grants until the Office of Grants Management is up and running.
- Council HHS Committee – Discussion of County Dental Services and Care for Kids, Feb 3rd at 2pm
- MCAB – board vacancy announcement has closed. Waiting to receive names from the CE's office

Discussion

- Julia questioned the number of pending applications and the reasons why. She would like for this data to be made available on a monthly basis. Julia also wants data on the numbers of applications that are Medicaid. Tara explained that the numbers right now are not very helpful as there are many duplicates, she also explained that they are working on figuring out how to properly track the data.
- Peter mentioned that the Medicaid numbers are critical. He also mentioned that the QHP extension letter has been very helpful, and clients have been grateful.
- Regarding the MCares Eligibility Phase 1, Tara explained that additional guidance from the County Executive is still needed in relation to how to move forward. There were 1091 cases that were QHP eligible (18%) out of 6,038 approved cases as of January 17th
- Tara mentioned that the Budget team is still trying to determine the feasibility to add additional staff to cover the workload increase in CFK. It was also mentioned that Kaiser has been more open to discussion.
- Marie expressed concerns over the Kaiser's cut off age increase and stated that she advocates that the program tries to prioritize the younger kids.
- Marie wanted to know if women were checked for substance abuse during prenatal checks, and she also suggested for this to be a measure to be considered. Becky believes that this screening is taking place.
- Peter wanted to know if specific dental services not covered by the MCO could be referred to the County Dental. Tara explained that unfortunately this was not an option.
- Tara pointed out that the MCAB will not be responsible this FY for reviewing any grants. OMB and departmental staff will review the applications and make recommendations to the County Executive. Due to timing constraints, recommendations for specific new and enhanced Community Grants will not be included in the FY21 Recommended Budget. Instead, OMB and Council Staff will develop a review process. These recommendations will go to County Council after March 15th. Linda and Peter discussed the importance of this transition year so that organizations/people can count with the funds needed while allowing time to revise the process. Tara also clarified that there is opportunity for new requests, however, the evaluation process will be different.

<p>4. Quality Committee Report See Presentation handout</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Yuchi Huang</p> <p>Yuchi highlighted the recommendations that the Quality Workgroup discussed. MCAB members along with PCC representatives and HCLC representatives came to a consensus recommending a comprehensive approach to quality for all Healthcare for the Uninsured programs.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tara mentioned that LaSonya expressed concerns about the Healthcare for the Homeless program not being included within workgroup recommendations. The presentation mentions a recommendation for future collaboration with Services to End and Prevent Homelessness to address quality efforts specific to people experiencing homelessness. ▪ Peter expressed concerns over the model of QI, the quality reporting system. ▪ Linda requested the audits reports that are done every 3 years for MCares. Hillery will share the amount for the quality approach that she will share with the TROIKA. Linda stated that it would be helpful to document the cost of the Quality Audits for MCARES and all that goes into it so be able to extend it to other programs (cost and # of staff that worked on the project). ▪ Members expressed concern about the staffing structure for the quality program. Because of the QA/QI structure across all programs, there would need to be a decision on where the staff is housed (contractors, County employees etc.). Any staff may need to be hired through an open solicitation. It was recommended that Year 1 be a planning year – providing funding for the MCares QA review and support for the design and structure. 			
<p>5. Board Expectations/Performance</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Julia Doherty</p> <p>The agenda item was moved to the March 2020 meeting; however, Julia requested members consider the following questions/topics for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can MCAB be more effective? ▪ How can members better advocate on policy change(s)? Are there things we need to do? ▪ Improve the data available – measure of things we need, make goals ▪ Broader advocacy: aligning priorities, referenced the Commission on Health and Latino Health Initiative ▪ Proposed a buddy system for new members to the Board 			
<p>6. Behavioral Health Strategic Plan See handout in packet</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Sybil Greenhut</p> <p>Sybil discussed the Strategic Alignment: A Collective Vision for Behavioral Health in Montgomery County. She pointed out that behavioral health had been examined many times in the past. In 2003, Montgomery County convened a “Blue Ribbon Task Force” to develop the first County-wide plan for mental health, followed by the 2015 Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) report. The reviews and findings show that it is a very fragmented system</p>			

	<p>very good at providing treatment but lacking in the areas of promotion, prevention and recovery. She further explained that this process differed from the first in that it focused on both mental health and substance-related disorders, the entire continuum of behavioral health services, and the wellbeing of residents across the entire lifespan.</p> <p>Sybil explained that it had been agreed that the system best able to meet Montgomery County’s behavioral health needs would deliver a continuum of services to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote behavioral health and wellness; 2. Prevent behavioral health disorders; 3. Treat individuals who have been diagnosed with behavioral health disorders; and 4. Support the recovery of individuals in improving their health and wellness in the aftermath, or in the presence of, a behavioral health disorder. 			
7.	<p>FY21 Advocacy – Committee Breakouts</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Program Chairs</p> <p>The program committees were given time to meet.</p>			
8.	<p>Committee Report Out – Advocacy</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Wayne Swann</p> <p>The suggested amounts for advocacy are:</p> <p><u>Montgomery Cares</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specialty Care \$155,000 Nexus Montgomery grant replacement ▪ Increase provider reimbursement by \$5 \$360,000 Rate change from \$76.50 to \$81.50 (72,000 encounters) ▪ Behavioral Health Georgetown Contract \$100,000 TBD – Amount to be determined based on utilization, could be lower. Rate increase by Georgetown <p><u>Care for Kids</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Medical Services \$200,000 • Staff - Client Service Specialist and Care Coordinator \$120,000 – 150,000 Funding amounts for each position will need to be determined • Increase Provider reimbursement \$150,000 <p><u>Maternity Partnership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase budget – Rising trend in enrollment. \$100,000 Budget has been reduced the past three FY’s based on utilization. Utilization • increasing with increased FPL, 127 additional patients • Breastfeeding Support (Lactation Consultant) \$120,000 County employee or Contract? • LARC Pilot Family Planning \$50,000 			

	<p><u>County Dental Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for Staffing – Change Rates from \$67 to \$77 \$100,000 Funding amount TBD <p><u>Health Care for the Homeless</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality Review/Measures across the 5 programs \$70,000 Budget reflects last year FY request that wasn't funded 			
9.	<p>February 2020 Agenda and Next Steps</p> <p>The next meeting will be February 26, 2020</p>	Wayne Swann		
10	<p>Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm</p> <p><i>Motion to adjourn: Yuchi Huang</i> <i>Seconded: Lynda Honberg</i> <i>Unanimously approved</i></p>			

Respectfully submitted,

Tara O. Clemons
Montgomery Cares Advisory Board